IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS HOUSTON DIVISION

LAWRENCE SCOTT,)		
an individual,)		
)	Case No.:	4:21-cv-2203
Plaintiff,)		
V.)		
)		
LANDI, LLC,)		
a Texas Limited Liability Company,)		
)		
Defendant.)		
)		

COMPLAINT

Plaintiff, LAWRENCE SCOTT, through his undersigned counsel, hereby files this Complaint and sues LANDI, LLC, a Texas Limited Liability Company, for injunctive relief, attorneys' fees and costs pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 12181 *et seq.*, ("AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT" or "ADA") and alleges:

JURISDICTION AND PARTIES

- 1. This is an action for declaratory and injunctive relief pursuant to Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. § 12181, *et seq.*, (the "ADA"). This Court is vested with original jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1343. This Court has supplemental jurisdiction over the subject matter of all other claims pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1367(a).
- 2. Venue is proper in this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1391(b), because the Defendant's Property, which is the subject of this action, is located in Harris County, Texas.
- 3. Plaintiff, LAWRENCE SCOTT (hereinafter referred to as "MR. SCOTT" or "Plaintiff"), is a resident of the State of Texas in Harris County.
 - 4. MR. SCOTT is a qualified individual with a disability under the ADA. In 2002,

- MR. SCOTT suffered a severe injury to his neck resulting in trauma to his C5 and C7 vertebrae.

 MR. SCOTT is paralyzed from the waist down.
- 5. Due to his disability, Plaintiff is substantially impaired in several major life activities, such as walking and standing, and requires a wheelchair for mobility.
- 6. Defendant, LANDI, LLC, a Texas Limited Liability Company (hereinafter referred to as "Defendant"), is registered to do business in the State of Texas. Upon information and belief, Defendant is the owner, lessor and/or operator of the real property and improvements which are the subject of this action, to wit: the "Property,", generally located at 4305 State Highway 6 North, Houston, Texas 77084.
 - 7. All events giving rise to this lawsuit occurred in the Southern District of Texas.

COUNT I (VIOLATION OF TITLE III OF THE ADA)

- 8. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates into this cause of action each and every allegation contained in the previous paragraphs of this Complaint.
- 9. The Property, a retail shopping plaza, is open to the public and provides goods and services to the public.
- 10. Plaintiff has visited the Property multiple times and attempted to utilize the goods and services offered at the Property and plans to return to the Property in the near future.
- 11. During his most recent visit, MR. SCOTT experienced serious difficulty accessing the goods and utilizing the services therein due to the architectural barriers discussed in this Complaint. Moreover, but for the inaccessible condition of the Property, Plaintiff would like to visit the Property more often.
 - 12. Due to the barriers, Plaintiff has been unable to, and continues to be unable to, enjoy

full and equal access to good and services offered at the Property, owned, leased, and/or operated by Defendant. Additionally, MR. SCOTT continues to desire to visit the Property, but fears that he will again encounter serious difficulty and safety hazards due to the barriers discussed herein which still exist.

- 13. Defendant has discriminated, and continues to discriminate, against Plaintiff in violation of 42 U.S.C. § 12181 *et seq.* and 28 C.F.R. § 36.302 *et seq.* by excluding and/or denying Plaintiff the benefits of the goods and services located on the Property by failing to provide and/or correct the following barriers to access which Plaintiff personally observed, encountered, and which hindered his access:
 - A. Plaintiff personally encountered inaccessible parking designated as accessible throughout the Property due to improper placement of ramps in access aisles. Additionally, these ramps are further inaccessible due to excessively sloped side flares, narrowness, excessive lips, and pavement in general disrepair. These conditions made it difficult and unsafe for Plaintiff to safely exit his vehicle and maneuver over the ramps, as well as increased his risk of fall; and
 - B. Plaintiff personally encountered inaccessible curb ramps on the designated accessible route throughout the Property. Specifically, the curb ramp located adjacent to Ai United Insurance is inaccessible due to excessive slopes, excessively sloped side flares, excessive lips, narrowness, and pavement in disrepair. Also, the curb ramp adjacent to the Redi-Care Medical Clinic contains excessively sloped side flares. These conditions made it difficult and

- unsafe for Plaintiff to use these routes to access the Property, as well as increased his risk of fall; and
- C. Plaintiff personally encounted inaccessible restroom at the Three Salsas

 Restaurant due to the incorrect placement of flush valve on wrong side of toilet,

 the lack of any rear or side grab bars, and the bathroom sink lacking proper

 knee clearance. These conditions made it difficult for the Plaintif to use the
 facilities and increased his risk of injury.
- 14. Upon information and belief, there are other current violations of the ADA and the ADA Accessibility Guidelines ("ADAAG") at the Property, and only after a full inspection is performed by the Plaintiff or Plaintiff's representatives can all said violations be identified.
- 15. To date, the readily achievable barriers and other violations of the ADA still exist and have not been remedied or altered in such a way as to effectuate compliance with the provisions of the ADA.
- 16. Independent of his intent to return as a patron to the Property, Plaintiff additionally intends to return to the Property as an ADA tester to determine whether the barriers to access stated herein have been remedied.
- 17. Removal of the barriers to access located on the Property is readily achievable, structurally feasible and easily accomplishable without placing an undue burden on Defendant.
- 18. Removal of the barriers to access located on the Property would allow Plaintiff to fully utilize the goods and services located therein.
- 19. The Plaintiff has been obligated to retain undersigned counsel for the filing and prosecution of this action. Plaintiff is entitled to have his reasonable attorneys' fees, costs, and

expenses paid by Defendant.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, the Plaintiff demands judgment against Defendant and requests the

following injunctive and declaratory relief:

A. That the Court declare that the Property owned, leased, and/or operated by

Defendant is in violation of the ADA;

B. That the Court enter an Order directing Defendant to alter its facility to make

them accessible to and useable by individuals with disabilities to the full

extent required by Title III of the ADA;

C. That the Court enter an Order directing Defendant to evaluate and neutralize

its policies and procedures towards persons with disabilities for such

reasonable time so as to allow Defendant to undertake and complete

corrective procedures;

D. That the Court award reasonable attorneys' fees, costs (including expert fees),

and other expenses of suit, to the Plaintiff; and

E. That this Court award Plaintiff such other additional and proper relief as may

be just and equitable.

By: <u>/s/ Louis I. Mussman</u>

Louis I. Mussman

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